

REMARKS

In a Decision dated August 7, 2009, the Board of Appeals affirmed the rejection of Claims 1-5 and 7-19 under 35 U.S.C. 103.

It is noted that Claims 20 and 21 were not involved in the appeal, and the Examiner had indicated earlier that these claims would be allowable if appropriately re-written.

In order to expedite issuance of a patent for Applicants' invention, this Amendment is being submitted to put Claims 20 and 21 in condition for allowance, and to cancel all of the other claims.

In particular, Claim 20 was directly dependent from Claim 1, and claim 20 is being rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of Claim 1. Also, Claims 1-5 and 7-19 are being cancelled.

Applicants note that in an earlier Amendment, dated February 2, 2006, Claim 20 was amended to improve the form of the claim. In an Advisory Action dated March 9, 2006, the Examiner indicated that the February 2, 2006, Amendment was entered and that the statue of Claims 20 and 21 is "objected to." Thus, the amendments being made herein to Claim 20 are based on the way this claim 20 is presented in that February 2, 2006, Amendment.

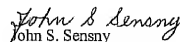
It is believed that Claim 20 and Claim 21, which is dependent from Claim 20, are now in condition for allowance.

This Amendment does not raise any new issues, does not require any further searching by the Examiner, and, moreover, puts the application in condition for allowance. It is thus believed that entry of this Amendment is appropriate, and such entry is respectfully requested.

For the reasons advanced above, the Examiner is asked to enter this Amendment, to reconsider and to withdraw the objection to Claims 20 and 21, and to allow these claims.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicants' Attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully Submitted,


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